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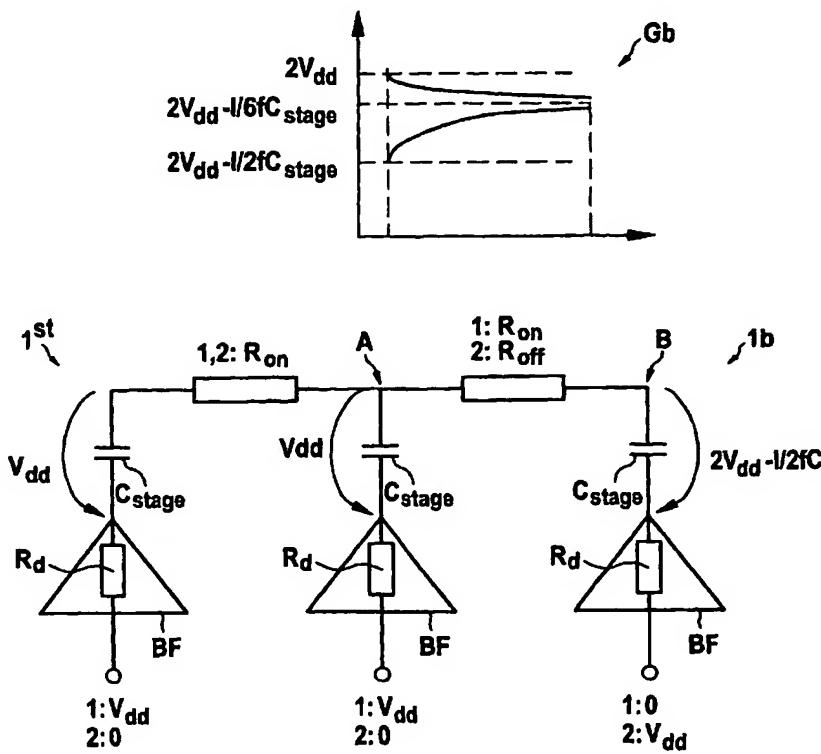
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: VOLTAGE CONVERTER FOR CONVERTING AN INPUT VOLTAGE TO AN OUTPUT VOLTAGE AND DRIVING CIRCUIT COMPRISING A VOLTAGE CONVERTER



(57) Abstract: The invention regards an improved voltage converter with increased current capability. The voltage converter architecture may be configured by software. In the prior art programmable charge pumps have been configured in such a way, that the unused stages were simply short circuited by a decoding logic. According to the invention these stages are used to increase the current capability of the first pumping stage. In particular the result is an increase in current capability of a proposed charge pump device by 10 % to 15 % without the need of additional parts and within the same area.



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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/003448 A1 (DEMEL ET AL) 10 January 2002 (2002-01-10)	1-10,13, 16
Y	page 3, left-hand column, line 24 -page 4, right-hand column, line 59; figures 1-4 ---	11,12, 14,15
Y	EP 0 866 545 A (SGS-THOMSON) 23 September 1988 (1988-09-23)	11,12,
A	column 8, line 29 -column 22, line 43; figures 1-17 ---	14,15 1-10,13, 16
A	US 2001/048338 A1 (SATO) 6 December 2001 (2001-12-06) page 2, left-hand column, line 7 -page 6, right-hand column, line 27; figures 1-7 ---	1,2,5-8, 15,16 -/-

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